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U. will bring charges against students for anti-Casey 'Jabberwocky' protest

By BRET MAIDMAN

The university will bring formal disciplinary charges against about eight students positively identified as being among 15 to 20 protesters who disrupted Central Intelligence Agency William Casey's speech Thursday night, dean of students John Robinson '67 said yesterday.

The three-minute interruption came 10 minutes into Casey's speech, when the students stood up to recite the lines from Lewis Carroll's poem, "Jabberwocky." The reading was meant to protest "the one-sided nature of the lecture series," said Stefan Cluver '83, one of the students formally charged today under the articles of the University Council on Student Affairs (UCSA).

Students outside Alumnae Hall also picketed the lecture series, which is under sharp attack from professors and students for its conservative nature.

Inside Alumnae, Casey's speech on the importance of the nation's intelligence community was frequently interrupted by scattered heckling and catcalls.

Robinson noted that only the students involved in the longer interruption will be charged, asserting that they rose on cue and that their protest was not spontaneous but planned.

Robinson said the UCSA, the campus judicial body composed of students, faculty and administrators, will probably have its first hearing on the incident next Monday.

The board can impose a range of penalties, from a formal reprimand to suspension or dismissal for the offense, listed in the UCSA regulations as "behavior which disrupts or materially interferes with the exercise by others of the basic rights to which they are entitled on University property or at university functions."

Stole the show

"The students who participated in the protest quite deliberately stole the show and deprived the right of the speaker to speak and the audience to listen," Robinson charged.

He said other students he had spoken with were "embarrassed for the whole community" by the actions of the protesters inside Alumnae. "(The protesters) had put student protest in jeopardy as a consequence of the way they acted," he added.

"It was an interruption, not a disruption in any case," Cluver countered, adding that Casey had two hours to state his point of view and that the protesters had only used "two minutes to have some kind of discourse go on."

Sharon Cohen '82, who took part in the protest, agreed. "It was a little thing we could do to make people think about what was happening there and what Casey was saying."

Cluver also said that "Casey's lecture was very unacademic," and that the Olin lecture series was a propaganda effort "to instill a particular political point of view."

Play hide and seek

Robinson said the protesters brought up "a question of values and fundamental issues in education."

Robinson asked that the students who took part in the interruption identify themselves. "If you're going to use civil disobedience you are not going to run and hide when it comes to the consequences of your behavior," he said, commenting on the apparent hesitancy of some of the protesters to come before the administration.

"To run and play hide and seek is juvenile," he added. "I get kind of mad just thinking about it."